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First Record of *Xiphydria* (Hymenoptera, Xiphydriidae) from India, with Descriptions of Two New Species

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Abstract Two new species of *Xiphydria*, *X. concolor* and *X. togashii*, are described. They represent the first record of this genus from India. Both the species resemble *X. atriceps* (MAA) from China.

Introduction

The genus *Xiphydria* LATREILLE, 1802, is so far represented by 27 species mainly from the Holarctic Region (SMITH, 1978). In the Oriental Region, several species have been known from southern China, but no records are available from India. According to BENSON (1954), *Xiphydria* is characterized as follows: clypeus with median tooth anteriorly, lateral ocelli lying quite anterior to supraorbital line, eyes elliptical, labial palp 3 to 4-segmented, maxillary palp 4 to 5-segmented, temples broad, area posterior to supraorbital line shining and almost impunctate, pronotum deeply emarginate anteriorly in dorsal aspect, vein 2A of forewing complete and widely separated from vein Cu_2+1A near base, vein rm of hindwing present, and each tarsal claw with small subapical tooth.

In the present paper, the authors are going to describe two new species of the genus from India. With the discovery of these species, which were captured by sweeping over the low lying vegetation in humid evergreen temperate forests, the genus *Xiphydria* has extended its southern limits down to India.

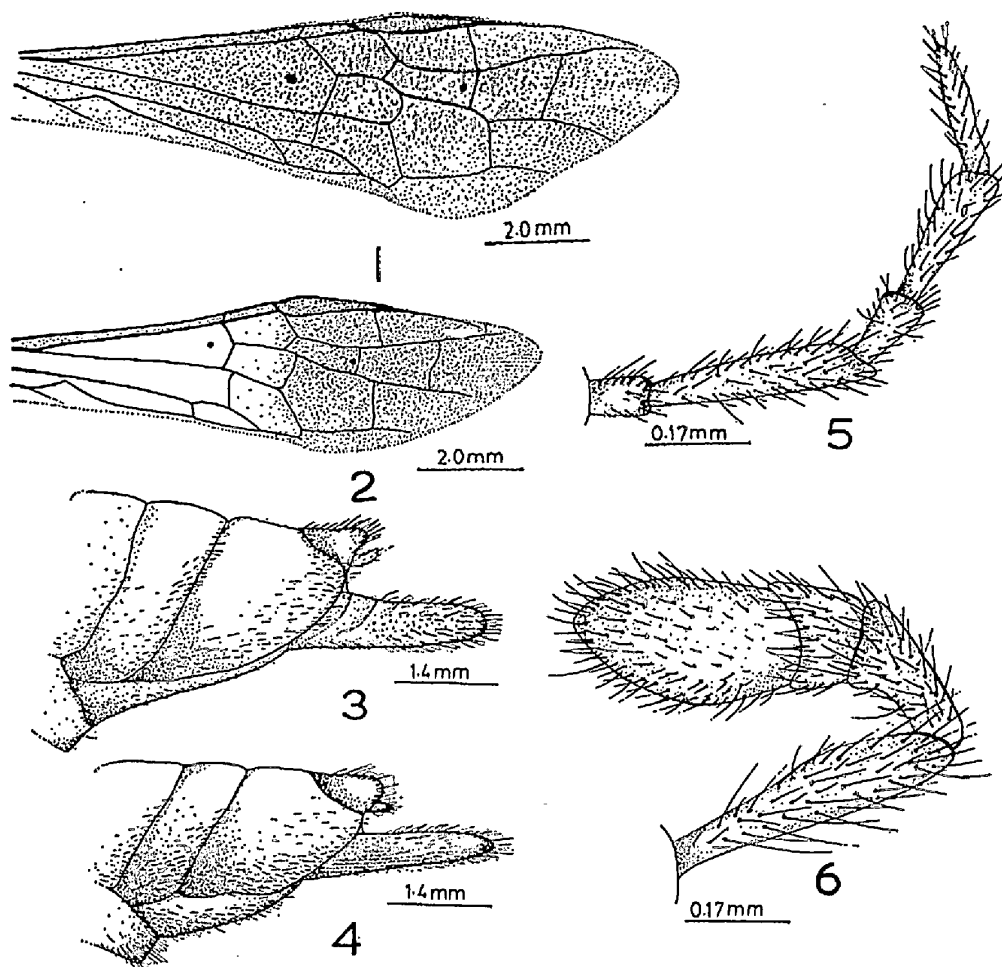
The terminology of MAA (1949) and BENSON (1954) has generally been followed. The holotypes will be submitted to the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Pusa National Collection, New Delhi, India, after this work is published.

Xiphydria togashii SAINI et SINGH, sp. nov.

(Figs. 1, 3, 5–6)

Female. Length of body (excluding ovipositor) 18.5 mm, length of forewing (from apex of tegula) 13.0 mm. Body black; apical half of mandible and all legs dark reddish brown. Forewing uniformly subinfuscated; hindwing faintly infuscated; stigma and venation dark brown to black.

Antenna 17-segmented, 1.7 times as long as head width, scape long and curved, flagellum tapering towards apex; interantennal distance twice as long as oculo-antennal distance; malar space twice as long as diameter of median ocellus; length and width of eyes in ratio 7: 5; OOL: POL: OCL=7: 5: 22; hind orbit strongly



Figs. 1–6. Forewing (1–2), tip of abdomen (3–4), maxillary palp (5), and labial palp (6) of Indian *Xiphydria*. — 1, 3, 5–6. *X. togashii* sp. nov. — 2, 4. *X. concolor* sp. nov.

carinate; labial palp (Fig. 6) 4-segmented; maxillary palp (Fig. 5) 5-segmented; median fovea very shallow; mesoscutellum not raised; intertegular distance: intercenchri distance = 3: 1; mesepisternum carinate; forewing (Fig. 1) with radial cross-vein joining cubitus at meeting point of mcu_2 ; front tibia with single apical spur; hind femur: hind tibia = 5: 4; hind basitarsus and remaining tarsal joints in ratio 2: 3; tip of abdomen as in Fig. 3.

Head reticulate except for the area posterior to supraorbital line, which is shining with a few scattered punctures; mesonotum and mesoscutellum rugose except for impunctate patch on lateral aspect of the latter; mesepisternum and mesosternum shallowly rugose; each of abdominal terga 1–7 with 2 transverse patches of distinct punctures, remaining terga microstriated.

Male. Unknown.

Holotype: Female, Mandal (Uttar Pradesh) — 1,700 m, 11. 6. 1985, SAINI & SINGH.

Xiphydria concolor SAINI et SINGH, sp. nov.

(Figs. 2, 4)

Female. Length of body (excluding ovipositor) 14.4 mm, length of forewing (from apex of tegula) 10.2 mm. Body uniformly black; tip of mandible reddish brown. Forewing hyaline, except for infuscated apex basally to proximal end of stigma; hindwing hyaline; stigma and venation dark brown to black.

Antenna 18-segmented, 1.5 times as long as head width, scape long and curved, flagellum tapering towards apex; interantennal distance twice as long as oculo-antennal distance; malar space twice as long as diameter of median ocellus; length and width of eyes in ratio 5:4; OOL:POL:OCL=6:5:20; hind orbit strongly carinate; labial palp 4-segmented; maxillary palp 5-segmented; median fovea elongate and shallow; mesoscutellum not raised; intertegular distance: intercenchri distance 8:5; mesepisternum carinate along convexity; forewing (Fig. 2) with radial crossvein joining cubitus well removed from meeting point of mcu_2 ; front tibia with single apical spur; hind femur: hind tibia=3:2; hind basitarsus and remaining tarsal joints in ratio 3:4; tip of abdomen as in Fig. 4.

Face between eyes reticulate, upper half of hind orbit and area posterior to supraorbital line shining with few scattered punctures; mesonotum rugose; mesoscutellum strongly punctured with shining and impunctate lateral patches; mesepisternum anterior to convexity and mesosternum rugose; each of abdominal terga 1-7 with 2 transverse patches of punctures, remaining terga microstriated.

Male. Unknown.

Holotype: Female, Kalatop (Himachal Pradesh) — 2,500 m, 7. 8. 1985, SAINI & SINGH.

Due to the black colour of body, both the new species exhibit some resemblance to *X. atriceps* (MAA). However, the latter species can be distinguished from the present ones by the following combination of characters: basal segments of antenna reddish brown; antenna 14-15 segmented; front tibia with extra minute apical spur; each of abdominal sterna 2-7 with a tuft of long, thick, dense and erect hairs near its posterior margin.

The new Indian species can be separated from each other by the following key:

1. Forewing uniformly subinfuscated; antenna 17-segmented; intertegular distance: intercenchri distance=3:1; radial crossvein of forewing joining cubitus at meeting point of mcu_2 ; body length 18.5 mm.....*X. togashii* sp. nov.
- Forewing hyaline with apex basally to proximal end of stigma infuscated; antenna 18-segmented; intertegular distance: intercenchri distance=8:5; radial crossvein of forewing joining cubitus well removed from meeting point of mcu_2 ; body length 14.4 mm.....*X. concolor* sp. nov.

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